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FROM: BERLIN

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TO: Secretary of State

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NO: 186, AUGUST 15, NOON

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SENT DEPARTMENT 186, BONN 172, REPEATED INFORMATION
PARIS, MOSCOW POLAD USAREUR UNNUMBERED.

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PARIS FOR EMBASSY, USRO, CINCEUR, THURSTON & FINN.

OCB
USIA

A. TEMPER OF WEST BERLIN POPULATION

CIA
OSD
ARMY
NAVY
AIR

PREOCCUPATION AMONG WEST SEGMENTS POPULATION WITH TREATMENT
OF BERLIN PROBLEM AT FONMIN CONFERENCE HAS GIVEN WAY TO FEELING
RELIEF THAT CONFERENCE LEFT BERLIN STATUS UNCHANGED. BERLINERS
UNWORRIED ABOUT GENEVA DEADLOCK. THEY ASSUME EAST-WEST DIS-
CUSSIONS AT HIGHEST LEVEL, ON WHICH THEY KNOW THEY CANNOT
EXERT MUCH INFLUENCE, WILL BE PROTRACTED. GENERAL OPTIMISM
BASED ON BELIEF TIME HAS BEEN GAINED AND SOVS NOT LIKELY
MOVE AGAINST BERLIN WHILE EAST-WEST TALKS IN PROGRESS.
BERLINERS ALSO CONTINUE FEEL CONFIDENCE IN CONTINUING U.S.
SUPPORT AS RESULT SECRETARY'S VISIT WHICH STILL SUBJECT MUCH
FAVORABLE COMMENT. UNPRECEDENTED ECONOMIC ACTIVITY WITH
ALMOST FULL EMPLOYMENT (SEE BERLIN'S 174 DEPT, 161 BONN)
IS IMPORTANT FACTOR BEHIND "NOTHING WILL HAPPEN TO US"
ATTITUDE. HOWEVER, SOME LABOR LEADERS EXPRESS UNEASINESS
ABOUT SIGNS OF OVER-CONFIDENCE IN LABOR RANKS ESPECIALLY
WHITE COLLAR WORKERS.

BERLIN PUBLIC FREQUENTLY EXPRESSES OPINION VICE PRESIDENT'S
MOSCOW-WARSAW TRIP WAS SUCCESS FOR WEST AND THAT HE DEFTLY
HANDLED DIFFICULT PROBLEM OF BEING TOUGH AND FIRM THOUGH COURTEOUS.
SAME IS EXPECTED OF PRESIDENT WHOSE DECISION VISIT ADENAUER
IN BONN IS REGARDED AS FURTHER DEMONSTRATION TO RUSSIA OF
FIRMNESS OF U.S. POSITION AND AMERICAN REGARD FOR FEDREP
ALLIANCE.

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B. CURRENT VIEWS WEST BERLIN POLITICAL LEADERS

THE FEW POLITICAL LEADERS NOT ON VACATION UNIFORMLY EXPRESS RELIEF SOVS REJECTED WESTERN COMPROMISE PLAN WHICH THEY FEEL IN SOME RESPECTS WENT BEYOND JUNE 16 WESTERN MEMORANDUM IN MEETING SOV POSITION. ENDING OF CONFERENCE IN SHADOW MOMENTOUS NEWS EISENHOWER-KHRUSHCHEV MEETING CONSIDERED FAR PREFERABLE TO EITHER BREAK-UP OF CONFERENCE WITH IMPLIED RESUMPTION DIRECT SOVIET THREAT AGAINST CITY OR IMPLEMENTATION OF "INTERIM SOLUTION."

THEY GENERALLY CONFIDENT INTERESTS OF CITY AND PRINCIPLES
EXPRESSED BY SECRETARY WILL BE SAFEGUARDED IN FORTHCOMING
EAST-WEST DISCUSSIONS. THEY DO HOWEVER EXPRESS MISGIVINGS
THAT FACT KHRUSHCHEV INVITED TO U.S., AS WELL AS WORLDWIDE
PUBLICITY RESULTING FROM HIS VISIT, MAY BENEFIT SOVS IN THREE
RESPECTS: 1) MAN RESPONSIBLE FOR MASSACRE OF HUNGARIANS
AND OTHERS WILL BECOME "INTERNATIONALLY RESPECTABLE"; 2) WORLD
OPINION MAY BE LULLED INTO FALSE SENSE OF SECURITY AS WAS
CASE AFTER GENEVA 1955^ESUMMIT MEETING; 3) SOVS MAY THEN BE
AT LEAST PARTLY SUCCESSFUL IN PRESENTING GERMAN AND ESPECIALLY
BERLIN PROBLEMS TO U.S. PUBLIC AS ONLY OBSTACLES TO REAL
DETENTE WITH DANGER THAT AMERICAN PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR BERLIN
MAY DECLINE.

LEADERS DIVIDED WHETHER GENEVA WAS SUCCESS FOR WEST. ON POSITIVE SIDE THEY NOTE DEACTIVATING "DE-FUSING" OF SOV THREAT AGAINST BERLIN FOR TIME BEING; SOV LACK OF SUCCESS IN SPLITTING WESTERN FRONT ON MATTER OF PRINCIPLE; CONTINUATION OF INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSIONS DESPITE DEADLOCK OVER BERLIN. ON NEGATIVE SIDE THEY SEE SOV SUCCESS IN WHITTLING DOWN POSITION OF WESTERN POWERS FROM THAT EXPRESSED IN PARIS FONMIN AND NATO COMMUNIQUES OF LAST DECEMBER; DISCUSSION OF INTERIM SOLUTION MOVED ONTO WHAT THEY CONSIDERED DANGEROUS GROUND; SOVS GAINED OBJECTIVE OF A TOP LEVEL MEETING WITH SURPRISING RAPIDITY AND NO SIGNIFICANT CONCESSIONS.

ADMISSION EAST GERMAN REGIME INTO COUNCIL OF GREAT ~~POWERS~~
ALSO CONSIDERED SOV GAIN; WEST BERLIN POLITICAL LEA

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BELIEVE THIS DEVELOPMENT WILL WEAKEN EAST GERMAN POPULATION'S
BELIEF IN EVENTUAL LIBERATION AND INCREASE TENDENCY TOWARD
ACCOMMODATION SOVZONE REGIME.

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